

7TH NOVEMBER 2021

FERINTOSH PARISH CHURCH

WORSHIP AT HOME



www.ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk

*"Feelings come, and feelings go,
And feelings are deceiving;
My warrant is the Word of God--
Naught else is worth believing."
(Martin Luther)*

HYMN

*I am weak but Thou art strong
Jesus keep me from all wrong
I'll be satisfied as long
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee*

*Just a closer walk with Thee
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be*

*When my feeble life is o'er
Time for me will be no more
Guide me gently, safely o'er
To Thy kingdom's shore, to Thy shore*

*Just a closer walk with Thee
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea
Daily walking close to Thee
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be*

PRAYER

Gracious God and Father, thank you for the joy of your presence with us. We praise you that you are a God of joy and of infinite grace, a Father to your children. We praise you that you have given up your own Son for us on the cross that all the privileges of your grace might be ours this day. So, make us holy through your truth, your Word is truth. And this we pray for Jesus Christ our Saviour's sake. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

*Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.*

SCRIPTURE READING HEBREWS 11: 1 - 23

1 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

2 This is what the ancients were commended for.

3 By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

4 By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

5 By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away." [a] For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.

6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

7 By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith.

8 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going.

9 By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.

10 For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

11 And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she [b] considered him faithful who had made the promise.

12 And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

13 All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth.

14 People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.

15 *If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return.*

16 *Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.*

17 *By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son,*

18 *even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.”*

19 *Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.*

20 *By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.*

21 *By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph’s sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.*

22 *By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones.*

23 *By faith Moses’ parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict.*

SERMON

Examples of persevering, saving faith flourish during the era of the patriarchs. The author of Hebrews devotes many verses to describing the faith and the faith-fuelled actions of Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph (Heb. 11:8-22). The next major figure in biblical history is Moses, and his life offers many illustrations of faith. The author of Hebrews turns there next, but he begins by looking not at the faith of Moses himself but at the faith of his parents, Amram and Jochebed (Ex. 6:20).

Hebrews 11:23 turns to Exodus 2:1-10 to show us the faith of Moses’ parents. He tells us that they hid Moses for three months “because they saw that the child was beautiful,” for Exodus 2:2 says that Moses was a “fine child.”

Neither text tells us precisely what Amram and Jochebed saw in Moses that made him so “beautiful” or “fine,” but it was common in Jewish interpretation to say that there was something about Moses’ appearance that told his parents that he was special. They understood, by faith in the God of Israel, that Moses would play a special role in the salvation of the Israelites, and they knew that they had to protect him. Stephen reflects this understanding as well, saying a bit more about what it meant for Moses to be “beautiful” in his speech to the Jewish authorities. Moses, Stephen notes, was “beautiful in God’s sight” (Acts 7:20). Whatever the handsomeness of Moses’ appearance, what made Moses beautiful was that our gracious and loving Creator favoured him.

Amram and Jochebed saw that Moses was special, so they knew that they had to hide him from Pharaoh’s murderous designs. In this act of hiding, they acted by faith, not fearing the king’s edict that all the male Hebrew babies had to be killed (Ex. 1:22). Here we should not think that Amram and Jochebed’s hearts were entirely free from fear. Obviously, they were afraid for Moses’ life; otherwise, they would not have tried to shield him from Pharaoh’s anger. But they loved their son, and although violating Pharaoh’s decree carried with it severe penalties, they nevertheless broke his unjust law. Their reverent fear of God and respect for His moral law was greater than their fear of what the king of Egypt might do to them.

People who trust in the Lord will be afraid from time to time, but their fear of the Lord overcomes their fear of men. Trusting the Lord, they do what is right, even when it means disobeying powerful rulers who command them to do what God forbids.

Those who truly believe in the Lord will more and more obey Him even when His law conflicts with the laws of men. Saving faith gives us the courage to serve the Lord even when we might suffer for doing so. We should pray daily for the Lord to increase our faith so that we always do what is right no matter the consequences.

HYMN

I come to the garden alone
While the dew is still on the roses
And the voice I hear falling on my ear
The Son of God discloses

And He walks with me
And He talks with me
And He tells me I am his own
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known

He speaks and the sound of His voice
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing
And the melody that He gave to me
Within my heart is ringing

And He walks with me
And He talks with me
And He tells me I am his own
And the joy we share as we tarry there
None other has ever known

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, bring us, we pray, by our Lord Jesus to enjoy the riches of our inheritance and in every dark hour to cry "Abba! Father!" that we may know that we really are the sons and daughters of God. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

BENEDICTION

And now may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all this day and forevermore, Amen.



WORSHIP

Sunday morning worship takes place at 11am in the church. We have reduced social distancing to 1 metre within the church and as a result have been able to increase the number of seats that are available, though there is still an upper limit. We would love to be able to welcome you to the service, so to guarantee a seat, please book with the Session Clerk, Martin McLauchlan, preferably by 5pm on the Friday prior to the service.

To book, either visit the church website, and complete and submit the online booking form at: ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk/booking or email the Session Clerk at

SessionClerk@ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk and he will send you a link to the Booking Form for you to complete and submit. If you do not have access to the Internet, phone him on 01349 830303 and leave your name and phone number and he will get back to you as soon as he can to take your details.

The Sunday Zoom service is at 6.30pm. If you would like to join the Zoom-service, please contact the Session Clerk at SessionClerk@ferintoshparishchurch.org.uk

Please continue to take care and stay safe.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Next Sunday, 14th November, we meet at the Church hall at 10:45am before walking up to the War Memorial for a short act of worship and to observe the 2 minute silence at 11am. The Church service will then begin at 11:15am. Everyone very welcome. Please remember to let the Session Clerk know if you are coming to the 11:15 service and are not on the Regular's list due to reduced seating capacity in the church.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY

The meetings take place each Wednesday in the Church Hall at 1.30pm for approximately an hour. This term we are studying the book of Galatians using BookbyBook material which includes a DVD where the guest speaker is Joni Eareckson Tada. This format is very popular and useful to bring issues to light. We will be completing study 2 about Paul, the Apostle to the Jews and beginning Abraham, the man of Faith. There is plenty of room for more people to join us and you would be made most welcome. Look forward to seeing you.

SAFEGUARDING

The Safeguarding office is keen that all volunteers who have been trained more than 3 years attend online training.

Refresher training is for those who work in a volunteer capacity which regularly involves children and/or vulnerable groups whether pastorally outside or inside the church. The refresher training is the introductory training updated. The date for the training is:

23 November 10am – 12:30

Please let the minister know if you would like to attend the online refresher training.

HIGHLAND FOODBANK

Your very generous donations are very much appreciated. However, sadly they are very much still required, even more now that Universal Credit top up is over. Please donate long life juice and milk, tins of potatoes, ham, corned beef and mince, rice, instant coffee, cereal, oatcakes and crackers, washing powder(small), washing up liquid and deodorants. Generally the foodbank has a surplus of soup and beans. Thank you all for your kindness to the most vulnerable in our community.